

**§ 250.431 What are the diverter design and installation requirements?**

You must design and install your diverter system to:

- (a) Use diverter spool outlets and diverter lines that have a nominal diameter of at least 10 inches for surface wellhead configurations and at least 12 inches for floating drilling operations;
- (b) Use dual diverter lines arranged to provide for downwind diversion capability;
- (c) Use at least two diverter control stations. One station must be on the drilling floor. The other station must be in a readily accessible location away from the drilling floor;
- (d) Use only remote-controlled valves in the diverter lines. All valves in the diverter system must be full-opening. You may not install manual or butterfly valves in any part of the diverter system;
- (e) Minimize the number of turns (only one 90-degree turn allowed for

each line for bottom-founded drilling units) in the diverter lines, maximize the radius of curvature of turns, and target all right angles and sharp turns;

(f) Anchor and support the entire diverter system to prevent whipping and vibration; and

(g) Protect all diverter-control instruments and lines from possible damage by thrown or falling objects.

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**§ 250.432 How do I obtain a departure to diverter design and installation requirements?**

The table below describes possible departures from the diverter requirements and the conditions required for each departure. To obtain one of these departures, you must have discussed the departure in your APD and received approval from the District Manager.

If you want a departure to:	Then you must...
(a) Use flexible hose for diverter lines instead of rigid pipe.	Use flexible hose that has integral end couplings.
(b) Use only one spool outlet for your diverter system.	(1) Have branch lines that meet the minimum internal diameter requirements; and (2) Provide downwind diversion capability.
(c) Use a spool with an outlet with an internal diameter of less than 10 inches on a surface wellhead.	Use a spool that has dual outlets with an internal diameter of at least 8 inches.
(d) Use a single diverter line for floating drilling operations on a dynamically positioned drillship.	Maintain an appropriate vessel heading to provide for downwind diversion.

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**§ 250.433 What are the diverter actuation and testing requirements?**

When you install the diverter system, you must actuate the diverter sealing element, diverter valves, and diverter-control systems and control stations. You must also flow-test the vent lines.

- (a) For drilling operations with a surface wellhead configuration, you must actuate the diverter system at least once every 24-hour period after the initial test. After you have nipped up on conductor casing, you must pressure-test the diverter-sealing element and diverter valves to a minimum of 200 psi. While the diverter is installed, you must conduct subsequent pressure

tests within 7 days after the previous test.

(b) For floating drilling operations with a subsea BOP stack, you must actuate the diverter system within 7 days after the previous actuation.

(c) You must alternate actuations and tests between control stations.

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**§ 250.434 What are the recordkeeping requirements for diverter actuations and tests?**

You must record the time, date, and results of all diverter actuations and tests in the driller's report. In addition, you must:

- (a) Record the diverter pressure test on a pressure chart;